

REMARKS**INTRODUCTION:**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 13 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are under consideration, and claims 19 and 21 are withdrawn. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

EXAMINER'S RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS:

In the Office Action, at pages 2-3, the Examiner presented his response to Applicant's arguments filed March 28, 2008. This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

In view of the amendments and arguments submitted herein, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's concerns have been overcome.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

A. In the Office Action, at pages 3-14, numbered paragraph I, claims 1-14 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658; hereafter, Sekikawa) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078; hereafter, Bubie) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186; hereafter, DeStefano). The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part: "remotely controlling, by the image display-free printing unit, displaying by the personal computer the image data transmitted from the image display-free printing unit." Independent claim 13 has been amended to recite, in part: "a print preparing section determining whether the memory card with the image data has been inserted into the image display-free printing unit and whether the image display-free printing unit has been connected to the personal computer, and outputting a determination result as a control signal, wherein the image display-free printing unit remotely controls display, on the monitor, of the image data read from the memory card." These amendments are supported by, for example, paragraph [0052] of the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner admits that Sekikawa does not explicitly disclose "printing at the display-free image printing unit the displayed image data in response to a user print request at the display-free image printing unit." Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended to show more clearly that the present invention allows an image printing unit to remotely control image data display and manipulation and local printing of the remotely displayed

image data.

In contrast, Sekikawa teaches displaying reduced rough images on an operation panel of a digital copier (see, e.g., col. 10, lines 56-64, and col. 5, lines 44-56 of Sekikawa).

As stated in col. 3, line 66 through col. 4, line 5, recited below for the convenience of the Examiner, Bubie teaches that the computer controls printing of the images:

The digital images are downloaded to the host computer 14 through the CPU 50 and can be stored on the hard drive 16. Application program or software for the present invention is incorporated into the hard drive 16 of the host computer 14, and then downloaded to a computer random access memory (RAM) when the program is used by the CPU 50. (emphasis added)

As stated in paragraph [0032] of DeStefano, recited below for the convenience of the Examiner, DeStefano teaches that the computer system operates under the control of an operating system, i.e., the computer controls operation of the printer:

[0032] Computer system 20, which may be similar to computer systems 12, 14, may include a processor such as a microprocessor 21; a number of peripheral components such as a computer display 22; storage devices 23 such as hard, floppy, and/or CD-ROM disk drives; a printer 24; and various input devices (e.g., a mouse 26 and keyboard 27), among others. Computer system 20 operates under the control of an operating system, and executes various computer software applications, programs, objects, modules, etc. Moreover, various applications, programs, objects, modules, etc. may also execute on one or more processors in server 16 or other computer systems 12, 14, e.g., in a distributed computing environment.

Hence, even if combined, Sekikawa, Bubie, and DeStefano do not teach or suggest amended independent claims 1 and/or 13 of the present application, wherein the image display-free printing unit remotely controls display, on the monitor of the computer, of the image data read from the memory card.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 13 of the present application are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186), alone or in combination. Since claims 2-12, 14, and 16-18 depend from amended independent claims 1 and 13, respectively, claims 2-12, 14, and 16-18 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186), alone or in combination, for at least the reasons amended independent claims 1 and 13 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186), alone or in combination.

B. In the Office Action, at pages 14-15, numbered paragraph II, claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658; hereafter, Sekikawa) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078; hereafter, Bubie) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186; hereafter, DeStefano) and further in view of Official Notice. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner argues: "although Sekikawa discloses that the user selects the image on the computer, one can see from Figs. 15 and 16 that images can be selected on the digital copier as well." It is respectfully pointed out that only icons representing "reduced rough images" and that show outlines of pages are displayed on the operation panel of the digital copier (see col. 13, lines 26-31 and col. 10, lines 56-64). The image itself is not shown on the operation panel of the digital copier in Sekikawa.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that on page 14 of the Office Action, the Examiner submits that claim 15 is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186) and further in view of Official Notice. As noted above, even if combined, Sekikawa, Bubie, and DeStefano do not teach or suggest amended independent claim 13 of the present application, wherein the image display-free printing unit remotely controls display, on the monitor of the computer, of the image data read from the memory card. Claim 15 incorporates the limitations of amended independent claim 13. By taking Official Notice, the rejection is being based, in part, on the personal knowledge of the Examiner. The personal knowledge of the Examiner, when used as a basis for a rejection, must be supported by an affidavit as to the specifics of the facts of that knowledge when called for by the applicant. See, MPEP 2144.03, 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(d)(2). In short, the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office require that the Examiner must either support this assertion with an Affidavit, or withdraw the rejection. Therefore, it is further respectfully requested that the Examiner support the rejection with either an affidavit or a reference, or withdraw the rejection with respect to Official Notice.

Hence, in view of the above arguments, amended independent claim 13 is submitted to be patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186) and further in view of Official Notice. Since claim 15 depends from amended independent claim 13, claim 15 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN 6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186) and further in view of Official Notice for at least the reasons amended independent claim 13 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sekikawa (USPN 6,498,658) in view of Bubie et al. (USPN

6,453,078) and further in view of DeStefano (US Pub. No. 2001/0003186) and further in view of Official Notice.

Withdrawal of these rejections and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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